HIPAA Briefing Paper Introduction

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Description

The purpose of this paper is to provide as an overview of the three Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) related presentations scheduled for the April ISB meeting.

Background

The Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS) appeared before the Board at the December 2001 meeting to present the findings of its feasibility study for bringing the MMIS system into compliance with federally mandated HIPAA regulations. At that meeting DSHS requested Board approval to release an RFP to acquire the services needed to perform the development and modification efforts. The Board deferred approval until such time as DSHS and other agencies that are, or may be impacted, by HIPAA could return and address the questions the Board posed at that time.

Status

DSHS will again request approval to issue an RFP for programming services to bring MMIS into compliance with HIPAA. Before the DSHS presentation, two additional HIPAA-related presentations are planned. Tom Parma, Senior Technology Management Consultant and staff to the Board, will present an overview of HIPAA.

The second presentation will be given by Nancy Ellison, Deputy Director of the Department of Health and chair of the HIPAA Deputy Directors group. The deputies have been meeting for the past 18 months to discuss how their respective agencies can coordinate and share planning information and resources to implement HIPAA. In addition to the Deputies group, an inter-agency group of business and IT managers has been meeting regularly since 1997 to share information about HIPAA. Ms. Ellison will review the efforts of these two groups to find opportunities for common approaches to implementing HIPAA.

Finally, Dennis Braddock, DSHS Secretary, and Doug Porter, Assistant Secretary for the Medical Services Administration, will present the plan to bring MMIS into HIPAA compliance and to answer any questions the Board may have.

Information about the work that these agencies have undertaken can be found at:

- From the Internet – http://maa.dshs.wa.gov/dshshipaa
- From the Intranet – http://maaintra.dshs.wa.gov/dshshipaa

Additional information regarding HIPAA may be found at:

- Community Health Information Technology Alliance – http://www.chita.org
- HIPAA Primer – http://www.hipaadvisory.com/regs/HIPAAprimer1.htm